

Message Text

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S/S - MR. MOFFAT

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R 271;50Z NOV 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

INFO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 261629

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CE, UX, XD

SUBJECT: CEYLONese AMBASSADOR'S CALL ON UNDER SECRETARY
SISCO

1. SUMMARY: IN CALL ON UNDER SECRETARY SISCO NOVEMBER
25, CEYLONese AMBASSADOR KANAKARATNE EXPRESSED DESIRE SEE
SECRETARY PRIOR DEPARTURE FOR COLOMBO, REPORTED ON PRIME
MINISTER BANDARANAIKE'S RECENT TRAVELS, SAID IRANIANS HAD
AGREED PROVIDE DOLS. 67 MILLION IN ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE,
AND THOUGHT SECRETARY'S STATEMENTS ON TRIP TO SOUTH ASIA
WOULD PROMOTE STABILIZATION IN AREA. SISCO INDICATED
AMBASSADOR'S REQUEST TO SEE THE SECRETARY WOULD BE FOR-
WARDED, BRIEFED HIM ON SECRETARY'S SOUTH ASIA TRIP, AND
PROMISED U.S. WOULD DO ITS BEST TO ASSIST SRI LANKA WITH
PL-480 FOOD. END SUMMARY.

2. CEYLONese AMBASSADOR KANAKARATNE, ACCOMPANIED BY
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FIRST SECRETARY DHANAPALA, CALLED ON UNDER SECRETARY SISCO
NOVEMBER 25. LAINGEN AND LORTON SAT IN.

3. EXPLAINING HE PLANNED TO DEPART FOR SRI LANKA ON
HOME LEAVE DECEMBER 18, KANAKARATNE SAID HE HOPED IT
WOULD BE POSSIBLE CALL ON SECRETARY SO THAT HE COULD
PROPERLY BRIEF PRIME MINISTER IN COLOMBO. SISCO INDICATED
SUCH A MEETING WOULD BE DESIRABLE, AND AGREED TO SEE

WHETHER SECRETARY'S SCHEDULE WILL ACCOMMODATE IT.

4. KANAKARATNE REPORTED ON PRIME MINISTER'S RECENT
TRAVELS TO BONN, BUCHAREST, BELGRADE, PAKISTAN, IRAN,
AND USSR. HE SAID MRS. BANDARANAIKE HAD TALKS WITH
WEST GERMAN CHANCELLOR, FOREIGN MINISTER, AND WILLY
BRANDT AND IN BELGRADE DISCUSSED LIKELY ISSUES FOR 1976
NON-ALIGNED SUMMIT IN COLOMBO WITH TITO. HE THOUGHT
ALL THE VISITS HAD BEEN "FAIRLY SUCCESSFUL" AND STOPS
IN FRG AND IRAN HAD PRODUCED TANGIBLE BENEFITS. IRAN
AGREED TO INCREASE ITS AID TO SRI LANKA AND OFFERED
DOLS. 67 MILLION IN BILATERAL CREDITS FOR A FERTILIZER
PROJECT AND COMMODITY PURCHASE ADVANCE PAYMENTS
(PRINCIPALLY TEA). TWO ECONOMIC MISSIONS HAD ALSO
RECENTLY GONE TO KUWAIT AND SAUDI ARABIA. KUWAIT AGREED
TO A DOLS. 33 MILLION BILATERAL CREDIT OVER THREE YEARS,
WHILE THE SAUDIS INDICATED THE POSSIBILITY THEY MIGHT DO
SOMETHING TO HELP CUSHION IMPACT OF OIL PRICE RISES.

5. KANAKARATNE WELCOMED SECRETARY'S AND PRESIDENT'S
TALKS WITH BREZHNEV IN VLADIVOSTOK. HE THOUGHT SECRETARY'S
STATEMENTS IN INDIA WOULD PROMOTE STABILIZATION IN AREA
AND EXPRESSED SATISFACTION AT SECRETARY'S REFERENCE TO
SIMLA PROCESS AND U.S. POLICY WHICH URGED COUNTRIES OF
THE AREA TO SOLVE THEIR OWN PROBLEMS THEMSELVES. SISCO
EMPHASIZED USG POSITION THAT BETTER INDO-U.S. RELATIONS
WOULD NOT BE AT THE EXPENSE OF ANYONE ELSE IN THE AREA,
THOUGHT TENSIONS IN REGION HAD DIMINISHED AND EXPRESSED
VIEW THAT EACH SOUTH ASIAN COUNTRY NEEDS HELP TO DO WHAT
THEY CAN IN THEIR OWN WAY. HE EXPRESSED CONCERN ABOUT
EVOLUTION OF INDIA OVER NEXT 5-10 YEARS AS GOI TRIES TO
DEAL WITH SERIOUS PROBLEMS OF FOOD AND POPULATION. SISCO
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VOLUNTEERED THAT CURRENT NAVAL EXERCISES AND VISITS IN
AREA REFLECTED WELL ESTABLISHED PATTERNS AND SHOULD BE
SEEN AS SIGN OF CONTINUING U.S. INTEREST IN THE AREA WHICH
WE SEE AS OF GENERAL BENEFIT.

6. SISCO TOLD KANAKARANTNE THAT RECENT VLADIVOSTOK TALKS
HAD MADE GOOD PROGRESS ON GETTING SALT II STARTED IN A

GOOD FRAMEWORK, NO NEW GROUND BROKEN ON MIDDLE EAST,
EUROPEAN SECURITY TALKS. REGARDING RESUMED SESSION OF
CONGRESS, SISCO SAID ADMINISTRATIONS MAIN OBJECTIVES IN
AREA OF FOREIGN POLICY WOULD BE TRADE BILL, AID BILL,
AND EXPORT-IMPORT BILL.

7. SISCO SAID HE HOPED THERE HAD BEEN NO MISUNDER-
STANDING ON OUR INABILITY PROVIDE PL-480 AT THIS TIME

AND ADDED WE WOULD TRY OUR BEST FOR NEXT QUARTER.
KANAKARATNE NOTED IMPACT OF ECONOMIC DIFFICULTIES ON
SRI LANKA'S INTERNAL STABILITY AND POINTED OUT
IMPORTANCE PL-480 ASSISTANCE WOULD HAVE IN EASING THE
BURDENS. INGERSOLL

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